

April 2004

CENTRAL COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol

Major Rick Bradley

Overview

The Central Command continues to operate with a 14% vacancy rate for Traffic Operations personnel and a 25% vacancy rate for Commercial Operations personnel. Relief appears to be on the horizon with personnel in the current and next Academy to be assigned to the Central Command.

During April, the Central Command investigated 3 additional crashes than in March. Property damage crashes and injury crashes increased by 4 and 2 respectively. However, fatal crashes declined by 50% with three fewer fatal crashes than in March. There were three persons killed from the three fatal crashes. Two of the three persons were wearing seat belts at the time of the collision. The passenger that was killed was not wearing a seat belt was ejected when the vehicle overturned.

Crashes involving commercial vehicles increased substantially, 27.8% with 5 additional crashes. However, of the 23 total crashes involving commercial vehicles, 7 involved collisions with animals, 4 involved mechanical problems and 4 others were caused by high winds or medical problems with the driver. Of the 23, 8 were caused by driver error. Of these 8, 5 were the fault of the commercial vehicle driver and 3 were the fault of the driver of a passenger vehicle.

There were only 2 alcohol related crashes in April. This is a 50% reduction from March. This was assisted by the increase in DUI arrests prior to crashes, an increase of 15.8%. This reflects the outcome of greater efforts put forth by Command personnel to remove the impaired driver from the roadways.

Enforcement activity for the Command declined by 7.7% during April from the levels in March. The most alarming statistic is that of seat belt enforcement. There was a 27% decline. This is unacceptable and is being addressed directly with first line supervisors. On a positive note, hazardous moving violations increased by almost 14% and arrest violations increased by 74.5%.

There was a decline in the number of vehicles inspected by Commercial Operations Personnel of 12.9%. There were, however, 579 inspections completed. Dyed fuel inspections continue to be a priority in the Central Command. During April there were 569 inspections performed, 134 of which were on secondary roadways, with no violations discovered.

During April the total work hours lost for operations personnel declined by 9.6%. This was a result of fewer sick leave hours taken and fewer training hours. On the surface, there appears to be a 20% increase in overtime. However, upon inspection this was a result of a substantial increase in the number of hours for contract services. Without this increase, there actually would have been an 8% decline in overtime hours.

I would like to thank the Central Command personnel for their efforts. Those areas that need attention will be addressed.



Content:

Crash Analysis
Field Enforcement
Staffing Hours
Ratios
Admin Report
Communications
Personnel
Public Information
Projects
Upcoming Events

May 6, 2004

CENTRAL COMMAND

CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	April-04		April-03	% Change		March-04	% Change
Total Crashes	95		83	14.5%		92	3.3%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	57		55	3.6%		53	7.5%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	35		28	25.0%		33	6.1%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	3		0	300.0%		6	-50.0%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	2		3	-33.3%		4	-50.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	3		0	300.0%		9	-66.7%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	0		0	0.0%		4	-400.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	1		0	100.0%		3	-66.7%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	1		0	100.0%		1	0.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	1		0	100.0%		0	100.0%
Total persons killed -- seatbelts not applicable	0		0	0.0%		1	-100.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	23		13	76.9%		18	27.8%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	15		9	66.7%		15	0.0%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	8		4	100.0%		3	166.7%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	0		0	0.0%		0	0.0%

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 3.2%

Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 2.1%

Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 33.3%

Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes 24.2%

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

There were 3 additional crashes in April as compared to March. Property damage crashes increased by 4 or 7.5%; injury crashes increased by 2 or 6.1%; but fatal crashes declined by 50% or 2 fewer. When compared to April 2003 there was an increase of 14.5% or 12 additional crashes. During April 2004 there were 7 of the 30 days in which there were travel restrictions issued due to inclement weather.

In the three fatal crashes there were 3 person killed. Of these, two were killed while wearing seat belts. One passenger was killed while not wearing a seatbelt.

During April there were two DUI related crashes, down 50% from March. The BAC for one of the crashes was .18. The result of the other has not yet been received.

Crashes involving commercial vehicles increased by 27.8% from March's 18 crashes. Although no fatal crashes involving commercial vehicles occurred, injury crashes rose by 5 versus March while property damage crashes remained the same. Of the 23 crashes, 7 involved collisions with an animal, 4 were mechanical problems. There were 8 crashes where "driver error" caused the crash and three of these a passenger vehicle was at fault in the crash.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

	April-04		April-03	% Change		March-04	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes	2		3	-33.3%		4	-50.0%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes	22		18	22.2%		19	15.8%
Other Arrests	192		110	74.5%		110	74.5%
Total persons arrested (DUI included)	69		61	13.1%		71	-2.8%
Speed violations	1726		1698	1.6%		1874	-7.9%
Hazardous moving violations	205		224	-8.5%		180	13.9%
Occupant restraint violations *	284		252	12.7%		389	-27.0%
Total violations [above violations included]	3025		2923	3.5%		3278	-7.7%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	28		37	-24.3%		28	0.0%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	7		21	-66.7%		9	-22.2%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	579		621	-6.8%		665	-12.9%
Terminal inspections [level 5]	2		2	0.0%		0	200.0%
Total safety violations -- citation	127		253	-49.8%		137	-7.3%
Total safety violations -- repair order	877		1726	-49.2%		955	-8.2%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	39		72	-45.8%		46	-15.2%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	25		45	-44.4%		17	47.1%
Total school buses inspected	5		0	500.0%		18	-72.2%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	0		0	0.0%		4	-400.0%
Total trucks weighed	52		175	-70.3%		356	-85.4%
Total overweight citations	2		9	-77.8%		5	-60.0%
Total dyed fuel inspections	569		618	-7.9%		630	-9.7%
Total dyed fuel citations	0		2	-200.0%		0	0.0%

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

April reflected a decrease in overall activity by 7.7% when compared to March, but a 3.5% increase when compared to April of 2003. During the current month, seatbelt violations declined by 27%. This is alarming and is being addressed through first line supervisors. Speed enforcement declined by almost 8%. Hazardous moving violations increased by almost 14% over March. Arrest violations in the Command increased substantially, 74.5%.

There were several factors which negatively impacted the Command's activity levels for the month. The most notable of these were the PSTO Program, Sergeant's promotional test and spring weather conditions which required NDOT to enact travel restrictions on 7 days during the month.

When reviewing the length of time between traffic stops and the time between issuance of citations, the minutes are almost identical to March's time frames only varying by a minute or two.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

STAFFING AND WORK HOURS

STAFFING	Total Authorized positions		Current positions staffed		Vacancy Rate	
	April-04	April-03	Administrative Assignment	Field Operations	Positions Vacant	Vacancy Rate Percentage
Traffic [Tpr. & Sgt.]	71	66	9	52	10.0	14.1%
Commercial [Tpr. & Sgt.]	16	16	1	11	4.0	25.0%
Commercial CVSI	2	2	0	2	0.0	0.0%
BELOW WORK HOURS ARE FIELD OPERATIONS PERSONNEL ONLY						
WORK HOURS LOST	April-04		April-03	% Change	March-04	% Change
Annual leave	440.00		364	20.9%	351	25.4%
Compensatory leave	423.50		166.25	154.7%	428.5	-1.2%
Sick Leave [personal and family]	545.00		851	-36.0%	722	-24.5%
Military leave	0.00		72	-7200.0%	0	0.0%
Holiday off	0.00		0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Training	777.67		1146.5	-32.2%	915.83	-15.1%
Administrative leave	0.00		176	-17600.0%	0	0.0%
Leave without pay	0.00		0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total work hours lost	2186.17		2775.75	-21.2%	2417.33	-9.6%
OVERTIME	April-04		April-03	% Change	March-04	% Change
Paid overtime claimed	1677.08		1007.5	66.5%	1407.08	19.2%
Compensatory overtime claimed	167.25		252.5	-33.8%	131.5	27.2%
Total overtime hours	1844.33		1260	46.4%	1538.58	19.9%
TOTAL HOURS WORKED	April-04		April-03	% Change	March-04	% Change
Number of authorized positions x 173 hours*	11245.00		11591	-3.0%	11418	-1.5%
Work hours lost	2186.17		2775.75	-21.2%	2417.33	-9.6%
Overtime	1844.33		1260	46.4%	1538.58	19.9%
Total hours worked	10903.17		10075.25	8.2%	10539.25	3.5%

* 173 hours based upon 2080 work hours per year divided by 12 months

Contract Service overtime was 991 hours for 13 contracts. Of the 991 hours 748 hours was for Central Command personnel. The balance was for Northern and Southern Command personnel. The Central Command processed the entire contract, thereby being responsible to report the total of 991 hours.

STAFFING AND WORK HOURS *Cont'd*

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

The staffing information has changed at the top of the previous staffing page slightly from previous months. The authorized positions do not include command staff or the Court/Warrant position. The 9 positions in administrative assignments include the Administrative Services Sergeant, Public Information Officer, Training Officer and 6 cadets in training at the Academy. Numerical staffing numbers shown above reflect only those Sergeants and Troopers whose primary responsibilities include enforcement activity, crash investigation, and commercial enforcement functions. Command staff and sworn personnel assigned to administrative duties are not included as they have no direct impact on the enforcement or accident reduction efforts.

The Central Command is experiencing an 14 % vacancy rate for traffic personnel and a 25% vacancy rate for commercial personnel.

The total work hours lost decreased by 9.6%. This was due primarily to the decline of sick leave and training hours during April as compared to March.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

RATIOS – ACCIDENT AND ENFORCEMENT

ACCIDENT RATIOS	April-04	March-04
Ratio of crashes per Traffic position		
Total	1.8	1.8
Property	1.1	1.0
Injury	0.7	0.6
Fatal	0.1	0.1
DUI	0.0	0.1
Commercial vehicle	0.4	0.3
Ratio of deaths per fatal crash	1.0	1.5
without seatbelts	0.3	1.2
with seatbelts	0.7	0.2

FIELD ENFORCEMENT

Ratio of enforcement per Traffic position		
DUI arrests from crashes	0.0	0.1
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes	0.4	0.4
Other Arrests	3.7	2.1
Total persons arrested (DUI included)	1.3	1.4
Speed violations	33.2	36.0
Hazardous moving violations	3.9	3.5
Occupant restraint violations	5.5	7.5
Total violations	58.2	63.0

RATIOS – ACCIDENT AND ENFORCEMENT *Cont'd*

INSPECTION / ENFORCEMENT RATIOS	April-04	March-04
Ratio of inspections and enforcement per Commercial position		
Hazardous moving violations - citations	2.5	2.3
Other traffic violations - citations	0.6	0.8
Total safety inspections [all levels]	44.5	47.5
Terminal inspections TIP	0.2	0.0
Total safety violations -- citation *	11.5	11.4
Average safety violations per inspection -- citation	0.2	0.2
Total safety violations -- repair order	67.5	68.2
Average safety violations per inspection -- repair order	1.5	1.4
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	3.0	3.3
Average vehicles placed OOS per inspection	0.1	0.1
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	1.9	1.2
Average drivers placed OOS per inspection	0.0	0.0
Total school buses inspected	0.4	1.3
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	0.0	0.3
Total trucks weighed *	4.7	29.7
Total overweight citations *	0.2	0.4
Total dyed fuel inspections *	51.7	52.5
Total dyed fuel citations *	0.0	0.0

* Commercial sworn only

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

The average number of crashes investigated per traffic position remained relatively constant. This is due to only having 3 additional crashes in April as compared to March. With the exception of fatal crashes, the severity also remained fairly constant. Total enforcement activity per traffic position declined by 7.6% when compared to March. There were increases in hazardous moving violations and other arrests. Speed and occupant restraint violations decreased by 2 – 3 violations per position.

The ratios for commercial personnel remained consistent in most areas as compared to March. There was an average of 3 fewer inspections per position. The number of drivers placed "out of service" increased slightly while the number of vehicles placed "out of service" and dyed fuel inspections remained constant. Vehicles weighed declined substantially as compared to March, 25 fewer vehicles weighed.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The training for 2004 has continued. RADAR recertification has been completed, first responder is 94% completed, Sexual harassment is 17% completed and EVOC is 20% completed. For the calendar year the Command is 34% complete with required training.

A total of 191 warrants were entered into NCJIS with 153 cleared. There were 1,928 warrants validated. Warrants entered declined by 35% compared to the 296 in March; warrants cleared decreased by 13% over the 176 in March and there was an increase of 6% in warrants validated.

The evidence vaults processed 69 new items while disposing of 29 items. The majority of new items were from NHP, 53.6%. New items increased by 72.5% over the 40 in March while items disposed declined by 82.8% from the 169 in March.

During April Front Office personnel entered 1523 citations, a 46% decline from March's 2821. In April, 386 were accomplished during 9.75 hours of overtime averaging over 39 entered per hour of overtime. During April, Front Office personnel processed 44 arrest reports, down 26% from March and processed 79 accident reports, down 29% from March. Most of January accidents have been entered into the Crossroads database. These were accomplished by Tpr. Privett in Winnemucca who was doing this while assigned to light duty. There are approximately 15 January crashes remaining to be entered into the Crossroads database. This will be completed in the first week of May.

COMMUNICATION CENTER

Overtime accrued during April decreased by 30% or 42 hours. Total overtime was 99.5 hours. The majority of overtime was to cover for vacant positions, 40 hours, with 26 hours for training and 16 hours to cover leave.

The Center continues to operate with 3 vacancies. One applicant has completed the hiring process and should begin in May.

Radio transmissions decreased during April by 7.1%. There were 79,723 transmissions March in as compared to 74,062 transmissions in April.

Incidents generated in April decreased by 3.7 % to 8,646 in April as compared to the 8,985 incidents in March.

There were 124 warrant confirmations as part of the CTA functions as compared to 144 warrants in March.

PERSONNEL

Tpr. Anthony Carlo was presented with the Annual Peace Officer's Award from the 37th Annual Methodist Men's Peace Officers Banquet in Winnemucca. Tpr. Carlo was nominated by Sgt. Tom Merschel in recognition of his "exceptional work performance and outstanding service to the community of Winnemucca." Trooper Carlo, who has been with the Highway Patrol for 13 years, stepped in eight months ago to fill a vacant sergeant's position. Since that time, Acting Sergeant Carlo has been the dayshift supervisor for the Winnemucca District. During the time that Carlo has been the Acting Sergeant, overall accidents were reduced by 15 percent from the year before, fatalities were reduced by 33 percent, speeding enforcement increased by 44 percent, and DUI arrests increased 21 percent.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Tpr. Gonzalez participated in EVOC instruction for the current DPS / NHP Academy.

On April 7th, NHP was present at a career fair at the Great Basin College. During this recruitment, 48 applications were distributed.

Driver safety programs were provided for Elko County Juvenile Probation, one class with 12 students and Cortez Gold, 5 classes with 200 total students attending.

Tpr. Gonzalez participated in the Wendover Safety Fair, staffing a passenger safety booth.

Tpr. Gonzalez and Tpr. Timm participated in a DUI awareness program at Dale White Motors in Elko.

Tpr. Gonzalez and Tpr. Sneed participated with other law enforcement representatives from Elko in the annual "Tip a Cop" fundraiser for the Special Olympics. Over \$3500 was raised.

PROJECTS / ACTION PLANS

ADAPT Vehicle

The ADAPT Vehicle was utilized in the Elko area during April. It was utilized on 3 occasions for 20 hours. During the use of the vehicle, 12 citations were issued. The vehicle was unavailable for much of the month due to the ADAPT vehicle being taken out of service and replaced with a newer vehicle. The new ADAPT vehicle was put back in service at the end of the month.

RADAR Trailer

The RADAR Trailer was assigned to the Elko area during April. The trailer was deployed on 8 occasions for 120.25 hours at different locations within the District. The trailer was used mostly on SR 227, Lamoille Highway. It was also utilized for 32 hours in a construction zone on I-80 about 9 miles east of Elko. It was also used for a day in Jiggs.

Budget FY06/07

Work continues and equipment requests are being finalized for the next biennium. Statewide meetings have occurred to complete the equipment requests and other areas of the budget for the Division.



Nevada Highway Patrol Central Command

3920 E. Idaho St.
Elko, NV 89801

PHONE:
(775) 753-1111

FAX:
(775) 753-1296

[http://dps.nv.gov/NHP/
CC_Contact_Us.htm](http://dps.nv.gov/NHP/CC_Contact_Us.htm)

UPCOMING EVENTS

SR 318 Spring Race	Alamo/Pioche and Ely Districts
May 14 – 16	
“Run-a –mucca” Motorcycle Jamboree	Winnemucca
May 29 - 30	
Mining Expo	Elko
June 7 - 13	
Elko Motorcycle Jamboree	
June 18 - 20	

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY NARRATIVE ANALYSIS *Cont'd*

DUI arrests prior to crashes increased by 15.8%, while arrests resulting from crashed declined by 50%. This positive trend reflects a concerted effort put forth by the Command's personnel in attempts to remove impaired drivers from the highways. The average BAC for DUI arrests prior to crashes is .174 for the 17 arrests in which results have been received.

Commercial personnel performed 579 inspections on commercial vehicles. This was a 12.9% decline from March. This then resulted in a decline in the number of violations discovered and the number of citations issued for safety violations. However, the number of drivers placed “Out of Service” increased by 47%, continuing the focus on the driver.

The number of trucks weighed declined substantially. This trend continues and is being addressed through first line supervisors. Dyed fuel enforcement continues with 80 hours of directed enforcement on secondary highways resulting in 87 inspections with no violations found. There were a total of 134 dyed fuel inspections completed on secondary roadways, again with no violations discovered.

STAFFING AND WORK HOURS NARRATIVE ANALYSIS *Cont'd*

Overtime in April increased by 19.9%. All of the increase and more was due to the increase in contract service overtime hours. There was an additional 432 hours of contract service overtime over March. Without this increase in contract service overtime, all other overtime actually declined by 8%. The largest areas for overtime during April were in Contract Services 36%; vacancy coverage, 13%; accident investigation, 11.9%; and training 8.7%. The remaining 30.4% was from a variety of areas accounting for 5% or less of the total overtime.

The total hours worked increased by 3.5%, however this increase is due to the increase of the contract service overtime. Without this increase there would have been decline of only 68 fewer hours worked.
